GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4277
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2000
DRIAGE ALLOWANCE ON RAW RICE
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had been allowing 2% driage allowance on manufacture of raw/par boiled rice before 1995-96 kharif season;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in the case of raw rice, it has been reduced to 1% from the kharif season of 1999-2000;

(d) if so, the reasons therefore;

(e) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to restore the same;

(f) if not, details thereof; and
(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHAUHAN)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. Two percent driage allowance was permissible on raw and par-boiled rice up to the year 1995-96.

(c) to (g) : The Expert Committee on rice milling (Gokak Committee) appointed by Government of India, had not recommended any driage allowances for both raw and par- boiled rice as it had taken this factor into consideration while fixing the out-turn ratio of raw and par-boiled rice. The Committee observed that `during par-boiling operations, irrespective of moisture content, the paddy imbibes water and the overall moisture content will increase to an extent of 28 to 35 percent. During drying operations, the same is reduced to milliable level of moisture content and the same is between 12 to 15 percent. In view of such change, there is no justifiable reason for allowing any driage loss due to reduction in moisture content during storage for milling par-boiled paddy`.

However, considering that some driage in paddy takes place before the same is milled, a driage of two percent in raw rice was allowed in case of Punjab in 1998-99. The same has been reduced to one percent for all the States for Custom Milling of Paddy for production of raw rice as decided by the Government on 1st December, 1998.